

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 281948
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DRAFTED BY S/S-O:SGOLDSMITH:WLT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 281948

NODIS

FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI

FOLLOWING REPEAT AMMAN 8624 ACTION SECSTATE 24 NOV 77

QUOTE

S E C R E T AMMAN 8624

NODIS

FOR USDEL SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PGOV, JO, US, XF

SUBJECT: HUSSEIN - POST SADAT VISIT

1. KING HUSSEIN WAS IN TOUCH WITH ME NOVEMBER 24 AND
MADE A NUMBER OF POINTS.

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2. HIS PRIME MINISTER HAD COME BACK FROM DAMASCUS AND REPORTED
A VERY ROUGH SESSION WITH SYRIANS. SYRIANS INSEFFECT PUTTING
THE FUTURE OF THEIR RELATIONS WITH JORDAN ON THE LINE IN
CONNECTION WITH GETTING HUSSEIN'S SUPPORT FOR THE ANTI-SADAT
MOVEMENT. IF KING HAD HAD ANY INCLINATION IN THAT DIRECTION,
IT HAS NOW BEEN KILLED BY THE ASAD APPROACH. HE TELLS ME
THAT BADRAN MADE ALL THE RIGHT POINTS TO SYRIANS. HE WILL

HIMSELF SHORTLY BE IN TOUCH WITH ASAD. HUSSEIN SAYS THAT HE HAS BEEN WORKING ON ANOTHER STATEMENT WHICH WILL AGAIN POINT OUT COURAGEOUS NATURE OF SADAT'S VISIT AND URGE ARAB WORLD TO PULL TOGETHER. HE WILL AWAIT SADAT'S REPORTED SATURDAY PUBLIC STATEMENT BEFORE HE ISSUES ANYTHING FURTHER. HE ASKED ABOUT MUBARAK'S TRAVELS AND LED ME TO BELIEVE THAT THEY WOULD VERY MUCH WELCOME A VISIT FROM MUBARAK OR ANY OTHER HIGH LEVEL EGYPTIAN AT THIS TIME.

3. HUSSEIN SAID THAT ASAD HAD ACCUSED THE ISRAELIS, EGYPTIANS AND THE US OF GANGING UP IN A BLOC AND THAT IF ROAD FROM JERUSALEM TO CAIRO WERE NOW OPEN THAT ASAD COULD WELL OPEN AGAIN THE ROAD FROM DAMASCUS TO BAGHDAD. KING SAID THIS IS ALL VERY FOOLISH, BUT IF IT HAPPENS THEN IT WILL MEAN A FULL BREAK WITH SYRIA. OBVIOUSLY HE HAS CONSIDERED THIS POINT CAREFULLY BECAUSE HE SAID HIS FULL TEAM HAD BEEN IN AQABAH WITH HIM OVER THE LAST 24 HOURS AND HE THOUGHT THROUGH THE WHOLE ISSUE IN DETAIL WITH THEM.

4. HE ADDED THAT HE WAS STILL DISAPPOINTED AT THE LACK OF ANYTHING CONCRETE FROM SADAT'S VISIT. THAT WAS WHY HE WAS IN TOUCH WITH ME. HE ASKED IF WE HAD ANYTHING NEW FOR HIM. I SAID THAT WE WERE STILL DIGESTING THE RESULTS OF THE VISIT, WERE IN TOUCH WITH THE PARTICIPANTS AND THAT I KNEW THAT WE WOULD ALSO WANT TO TALK WITH HIM AND THE OTHERS AS SOON AS THE SITUATION BECAME CLEAR TO US. HE THEN NOTED IN LIGHT
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OF WHAT I HAD TO SAY AND OF THE POINTS THAT HE MADE TO ME, THAT HE "WOULD BECOME ACTIVE IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, PROBABLY BY SATURDAY" WHICH WAS WHEN "THINGS WOULD BEGIN TO BREAK". MEANWHILE HE WOULD USE HIS VACATION AND DODGE THE PRESS. HE WANTED FIRST TO MAKE A PUBLIC GENERAL STATEMENT ABOUT THE SADAT VISIT AND WOULD THEN SEE THE PRESS WHICH IS PRESENT HERE IN UNUSUALLY LARGE NUMBERS. HE HAD ALSO HEARD THE SAUDIS MAY HAVE SENT SADAT A FAVORABLE STATEMENT OR LETTER TODAY.

5. COMMENT: ALL OF THIS WAS GIVEN TO ME OVER THE PALACE TELEPHONE LINE FROM AQABAH AND THERE WAS LITTLE ROOM GIVEN THE LACK OF SECURITY TO ASK QUESTIONS OR TO PROB TOO THOROUGHLY THE DOUBLE TALK HUSSEIN IS INCLINED TO USE ON SUCH OCCASIONS. HOWEVER, I AM SURE OF HIS DISPLEASURE WITH ASAD AND HIS CONSEQUENTLY GREATER INTEREST IN SUPPORTING THE EGYPTIANS. OBVIOUSLY ANYTHING WHICH WE CAN PASS ON TO HIM SOON WILL BE OF GREAT BENEFIT, ESPECIALLY POINTS WHICH MIGHT BE HELPFUL WITH ASAD.

6. DEPARTMENT: PASS DAMASCUS, CAIRO, TEL AVIV.
PICKERING.

UNQUOTE VANCE".

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Remarks:
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